

The City of Covina's stormwater pollution prevention program is governed by various, federal, state and local laws and regulations.

The Clean Water Act of 1987 established requirements for storm water discharges under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The goals of the permit include protecting the beneficial uses of the water bodies and reducing stormwater pollution.

Polluted stormwater degrades our creeks and ocean. Sediments cloud the water, nutrients promote the growth of algae and toxic chemicals from pesticides or leaking cars all threaten the health of fish and other aquatic life. Bacteria and parasites from pet waste and leaking septic tanks can make our ocean unsafe for swimming and surfing.

The NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit mandates that the City implement specified stormwater management programs to address the challenges of preventing stormwater pollution. Under this permit, the City is held accountable for water quality in our waterways.

The permit sets out strict requirements for stormwater pollution prevention, particularly in the areas of construction and development. It also addresses pollutant sources from commercial activities.

The city is responsible for street sweeping, cleaning out catch basins and public storm drains and terminating any illicit discharges that enter our receiving waters.

The municipal NPDES permit is issued every five years, with the most recent being issued in December 2001.

To read a copy of the current NPDES permit, click the link below.

[Click here to download file](#) (PDF format - 326kb)

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